



## Virginia Oral Health Coalition Update August 2016

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### Webinar Series: Recruiting for Retention Academy

Virginia's Primary Care Office (PCO) is offering the webinar series



[Recruiting for Retention Academy](#) at no charge for rural and underserved communities. The series will cover forming a recruitment action plan, leveraging the local PCO office, the Conrad 30 J1 Visa Waiver program, the National Health Services Corps, and more. The eight-session online course lasts from October 2016 to March 2017. [Register online](#) using the code "Virginia-Works!"

### Study: Regular Dental Care Saves Billions in Health Care Costs

A recent study commissioned by the Dental Trade Alliance (DTA) reaffirms that regular oral health care can reduce spending on diabetic patients, pregnant women, emergency department visits, low-income children and other costly health conditions. The white paper [An Unexpected Strategy for Reducing Health Care Costs](#) (and accompanying [website](#)) includes targeted steps for health care organizations and providers, policymakers, businesses, physicians, insurers, and dental providers to more widely adopt or expand dental care. If you're interested in viewing the full study, [contact the DTA](#).



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### Of Interest

#### Oral Health and Overall Health

Oral health and overall health are fundamentally intertwined. The following links present current information on how oral health is connected to overall health and well-being.

- [Promoting Oral Health in Schools: A Resource Guide](#)

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## Interprofessional Collaborative Care Conference in DC

The National Dental Association is hosting a free conference "New Trends for a Healthier Nation: Inter-professional Collaborative Care" in Washington, DC, on September 14; this event is appropriate for medical, dental and pharmacy professionals. [View more info.](#)

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## Upcoming VaOHC Meetings

**VA Oral Health Report Card Workgroup**  
Thursday, September 1  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

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**Early Dental Home Workgroup**  
Wednesday, September 7  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

To RSVP, contact [Regina Potis](#).

[Learn about our workgroups.](#)

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## Save the Date!

**2016 Virginia Oral Health Summit**  
**Thursday, November 10**  
**The Westin Richmond**

Sponsorship and exhibit opportunities are available. Contact [Samantha Dorr](#) for details.

- [Older Americans Need Better Access to Dental Care](#)
- [App: HIV Oral Diseases](#)
- [Access to Oral Health Care for Tribal Communities](#)

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## CE Course for Pediatric Providers Covers Key Clinical Oral Health Activities

The American Academy of Pediatrics has released an online CE course [EQIPP: Oral Health](#) which helps pediatric and family medicine clinicians to:



perform an oral health risk assessment; provide oral health anticipatory guidance and education; ensure fluoride varnish application for high-risk patients; and, establish a dental home. The course is available to pediatricians, nurse practitioners and allied health professionals and meets ABFM MOC Part 4 requirements.

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## Dental Expenses are Highest Contributing Factor to Medical Debt

[Recent national surveys](#) conducted by Demos reveal that dental expenses were most frequently cited as contributing to credit card debt in low- and middle-income households - more so than prescription and emergency room costs. The article notes this may be due to the fact that many individuals lack dental coverage. [Read the full article.](#)

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## CDC's HI-5 Initiative Highlights Water Fluoridation



The CDC's [Health Impact in Five Years](#) (or "HI-5") initiative aims to highlight non-clinical, community-wide approaches that have positive health impacts, results within five years and cost-savings over the lifetime of the population or earlier. HI-5 has included water fluoridation as one of its interventions to address social determinants of health, citing its ability to save money for families and health systems and improve oral health. For most cities, every \$1 invested in fluoridation saves

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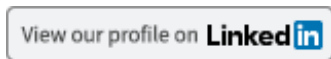
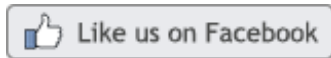
Please take a moment and support the Coalition's work.



Please check with your HR department to find out if your gift can be matched.

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Virginia Oral Health Coalition  
4200 Innslake Drive  
Glen Allen, Virginia 23060  
[sholland@vaoralhealth.org](mailto:sholland@vaoralhealth.org)  
804.269.8720



\$38 in unnecessary dental treatment costs. In Virginia, 96 percent of public water systems are fluoridated. [View water fluoridation resources.](#)

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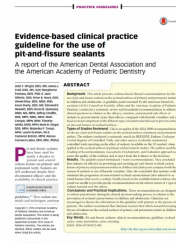
## Free Interprofessional Practice Education Modules

The course "Collaboration and Communication in Healthcare: Principles of Interprofessional Practice" is now available on YouTube. The five-module course by the University of California San Francisco covers the scope of practice for different health professionals, key skills for communication and conflict management, and other important factors. [View the course.](#)

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## Clinical Practice Guidelines for Dental Sealants

In an update to previous recommendations, the ADA and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry has released [evidence-based clinical recommendations](#) for the use of dental sealants for children and adolescents. The findings show sealants are an effective prevention strategy, can be placed over non-cavitated caries lesions, and clinicians should increase their use, where appropriate. The guideline panel did not find enough evidence to recommend one type of sealant material over another.



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